

July 2, 2008

Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)

Eda Maffia
Maffia Ranch Legacy Tire Site Project
WDID# 1B08033WNSO

Sonoma County

On March 4, 2008, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Lisa Hulette, on behalf of Eda Maffia, requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Maffia Ranch Legacy Tire Site Project (Project) located in Sonoma County. The proposed project causes permanent impacts to 0.5 acres of unnamed ephemeral stream within the Estero Americano HSA Hydrologic Sub Unit No. 115.30.

The proposed Project is located at 12001 Valley Ford Road in Petaluma, Sonoma County, California, (APN No. 027-180-023). The latitude and longitude is 38.31162°N and -122.86160°W. The Project is part of Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District's (RCD) Estero de Americano Sediment Reduction Program for 2008, funded by the State Water Resources Control Board and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The Project is located on a private ranch in southwestern Sonoma County within the Estero de Americano watershed, which is on the Regional Board's 303(d) list as impaired due to excess sediment/siltation and nutrient pollution.

The Project consists of removal of an unknown number of tires, (perhaps as many as several thousand), from two gullies, (1000' and 600'), on an agricultural property in western Sonoma County. The removal of the tires is required by the Integrated Waste Board, and cleanup to non-contaminated conditions is required. After the removal of tires, the Project includes the stabilization of the two gullies. A system consisting of rock drops in series is proposed to stabilize both gullies. Nineteen rock drops in the western gully and eight rock drops on the eastern gully will be installed at varying intervals reducing the slope of the vegetated grassed waterway in between the rock drops to 2%. The channel will be re-graded to a vegetated grassed waterway with compacted fill, armored with erosion control blanket and planted with a native grass erosion control seed mix. Approximately 3,400' of fencing will be installed to exclude livestock from the restoration site. Additionally, a local community/education group will plant native riparian plants within the gullies.

This project is designed to be self mitigating as the bank stabilization, and exclusionary livestock fencing, will result in a reduction of erosion and sedimentation and improvements in water quality conditions in the Estero. Additional benefits to water quality may include reduction of delivery of nutrients to the Estero, because of exclusion of cattle and their delivery of waste to the restored watercourses, combined with the increased filtering effect of the additional vegetation. The project will also result in an improvement in aquatic and upland habitat. Restoration industry-standard erosion control measures will be utilized during construction to avoid impacts to the adjacent

waterway and downstream habitat. Future monitoring, maintenance and management of the site after construction are the responsibility of the landowner.

At a minimum, the following construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the final Project plans in order to reduce and control soil erosion: work in and around waterways will be conducted during the dry season (April 15th to October 15th); installation of construction barrier fencing to preclude equipment entry into sensitive areas; installation of silt fencing or fiber rolls to prevent sediment loss from immediate work area; topsoil salvage and reapplication; and seeding and mulching. Additionally, all required BMPs shall be on-site and ready for timely deployment, before start of construction activities.

The Maffia Ranch Legacy Tire Site Project is scheduled to begin summer of 2008 and end by October 15, 2008. Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653, or at sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov, or Brian Lindell at (707) 576-6732, blindell@waterboards.ca.gov, within 21 days of posting of this notice.

This is a brief summary of this project; all related documents and comments received are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Blvd., Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.